

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition comprising: an *Epimedium* extract for use in the treatment of prostatic hyperplasia wherein the extract comprises crude flavones and polysaccharides in a ratio of from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight of the composition, wherein flavones of the crude flavones of the extract range from 20% to 90% by weight of the crude flavones, and the molecular weight of the extract polysaccharides ranges from 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons, and wherein the composition is free of polysaccharides having a molecular weight below 1,000 Daltons.

2. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of the crude flavones to the polysaccharides is from about 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of the composition, and wherein the flavones comprise 10% to 90% by weight of icariin and icariin I, and the molecular weight of the extract polysaccharides ranges from 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.

3. (Currently Amended) A method of *Epimedium* herb extraction comprising the steps of:

~~adding an *Epimedium* herb to an absorption column,~~

extracting the *Epimedium* herb with a solution containing 60% to 95% by volume of an organic solvent, filtering the extract to obtain a filtrate, recovering the organic solvent from ~~[[a]]~~ the filtrate, adding the recovered organic solvent containing the extracted *Epimedium* herb to an absorption column, subsequently washing the column with water, eluting the column with 30-85% ethanol by volume and recovering the eluent by suction filtration, collecting all the eluent

and evaporating to dryness and obtaining crude flavones, wherein flavones in the crude flavones are about 20% to 90% by weight,

decocting an *Epimedium* residue with water and concentrating the aqueous solution, a sufficient quantity of ethanol is added to obtain a final with ethanol to a concentration of 70% to 85% by volume based on the total volume of residue, water, and ethanol, filtering to obtain crude polysaccharides, dissolving the polysaccharides in water and adding chloroform n-butanol mixture (3-6:1) to precipitate protein debris, removing any polysaccharides having a molecular weight below 1000 Daltons by ultra filtration, concentrating the aqueous extract to dryness and obtaining polysaccharides having a molecular weight of from 1,000 to 700,000 Daltons, and

mixing the extracted crude flavones and the polysaccharides to obtain a ratio of from 2:8 to 8:2 by weight of the composition.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the extract comprises *Epimedium* crude flavones and polysaccharides in a ratio from 3:7 to 6:4 by weight of composition, and wherein the extraction organic solvent comprises ethanol, propanone, isopropyl alcohol or methanol, or combinations thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the flavones of the crude flavones comprises 10-90% by weight icariin and icariin I, wherein following the *Epimedium* polysaccharides extraction protocol the crude polysaccharides is redissolved in water, adding a sufficient quantity of ethanol is added to obtain a final concentration of 70% to 85% by volume based on the total volume of crude polysaccharides, water, and ethanol, and harvesting [[the]] refined polysaccharides by filtration, and wherein the molecular weight of refined polysaccharides ranges from 45,000 to 620,000 Daltons.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 5, wherein the ratio of crude flavones to polysaccharides is 3:7, 4:6, 5:5, 6:4 or 7:3, and wherein the ratios can be used alone or with any pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle/ excipients.

7.-14. (Cancelled).